

COS 223 Worship and Sacraments

Goals and Objectives: 223 Worship and Sacraments

This course examines the worship within The United Methodist Church including liturgy, sacraments, and special services. Attention will be given to the pastor's role as leader in worship.

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate a theology of worship consistent with the Wesleyan tradition, including reflection on the theology and rhythm of the Christian year.
2. Articulate a Wesleyan theology of the sacraments and be competent in their administration.
3. Interpret theologically the rites of Christian marriage, and of Death and Resurrection, and be able to lead such services well.
4. Construct a worship service, and reflect theologically on the use of hymns, media, contemporary music, and lay leadership.

Text Book List

Unless otherwise noted, please use most recent edition.

Required Texts for 223 – Worship and Sacraments

1. Hoyt Hickman, *Worshipping with United Methodists: A Guide for Pastors and Church Leaders* (Abingdon Press, Revised Edition 2007; ISBN 978-0687335268)
2. Constance Cherry, *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services* (Baker Academic (March 1, 2010); ISBN 978-0801038747).
3. Constance Cherry, *The Special Service Worship Architect: Blueprints for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, Holy Communion, and Other Occasions* (Baker Academic (July 15, 2013); ISBN 978-0801048951).

Reference Books

1. *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (The United Methodist Publishing House (April 5, 2016); ASIN B00RPJ5GL2)
2. *United Methodist Hymnal* (Abingdon Press; 3rd Printing edition (January 1, 1989); ISBN 978-0687431335).
3. Gayle C. Felton, *This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006; ISBN 978 0881774573)
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/this-holy-mystery-a-united-methodist-understanding-of-holy-communion> (download for free)
4. Gayle C. Felton, *By Water and the Spirit: Making Connections for Identity and Ministry* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1998. ISBN 978 0881772012)
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/by-water-and-the-spirit-full-text> (download for free)

Please note:

Each course has **assigned texts**. Students are required to read them, use them in their assignments and are accountable in the classroom for any discussion or presentation of materials. **Reference books** are also required; assignments assure the use of the reference books; they are not classroom texts. Assigned texts and reference books help the student build their own library. **Supplemental texts** (when applicable) are valuable, but optional texts if a student wants to pursue an area of ministry. Students may acquire the books in a variety of ways: Order from Cokesbury.com; order from another vendor; purchase a used book; or borrow from a colleague.

Following is a description of the five assignments for this course.

Please read through this section carefully, noting deadlines for submission and other pertinent information.

Advance Assignment #1: Worship – Due March 13, 2020

Read critically Hoyt Hickman, *Worshipping with United Methodists*, to comprehend the basic pattern of worship, then use it to plan an upcoming worship service or season of worship.

Your 6-8 page paper should include the following:

- a. **An introduction** (1-2 pages) describing in detail your particular ministry setting. Ask yourself how Hickman might describe the challenges and gifts of your congregation(s).
- b. **A description of one complete service** (2-3 pages) that demonstrates your plan for worshipping well with these challenges and gifts. Establish a clear theme for the service. Include a brief description of the season, scripture, sermon, hymns, litanies, offerings, prayers, etc. Be sure to thoughtfully include input from the Cherry texts in your selections.
- c. **An analysis of how this service reflects Hickman's wisdom** on each of the four parts of our worship pattern (entrance, proclamation/response, thanksgiving/communion, sending forth). Dig deep into Hickman's analysis to demonstrate that you understand the purposes and connections of each of these parts.

Advance Assignment #2: Communion and Baptism – Due April 20, 2020

Read the following:

1. Felton's *By Water and the Spirit*
2. Felton's *This Holy Mystery*.
3. Cherry, *The Special Service*, chapters 4 and 5

In a seven page paper (divided about equally between the two practices), write a detailed description of your congregation's Holy Communion and Baptism practices. Share the particular challenges and gifts from your congregation and your own leadership.

In the paper's conclusion (1 page), share any thoughts about how you might plan to improve/change the ways in which your congregation celebrates these sacraments. What leadership from you will be required? What kind of teaching could you do to help your congregation understand the importance of the sacraments?

Reflection Paper: Worship Reflection – Due by April 20, 2020/can be turned in at any time

Between now and the due date for this paper, please attend a worship service in which you are not providing leadership. Take some notes while you are there and then write a 3 to 5 page reflection paper on what you experienced. Some of the questions will help you think about the experience (DO NOT feel like you have to answer them all; that would be impossible):

- 1) What did you like? What spoke to you?
- 2) What would you change?
- 3) How was the worship **S** (sacramental), **L** (liturgical), **I** (indigenous), **C** (connected) and **E** (embodied)?
 - a. For more on SLICE, see *Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2016-2020: Worship*, pp. 15-21.
- 4) What was the hospitality like?
- 5) Was it obvious what day of the Christian year it was? Was the sermon lectionary based or part of a series? How did that all tie together?
- 6) Describe the order of worship, music, prayers, preaching, ritual or community.
- 7) Did you feel that Christ was offered to you?
- 8) What did you learn that you might apply to your own ministry setting?

In Class Assignment

Worship Altar Creation (in class on April 24 and 25)

You will work with 1 or 2 other participants to create an altar for our class. The altar should have a primary metaphor you are communicating through the design. The metaphor should be evident to us through your set-up. You should also give us the scripture you are using for that day.

Each group will have 5-10 minutes to explain your altar, your metaphor and your scripture of the day and then take questions from your classmates. We will focus on Baptism of the Lord, Holy Thursday, Native American Ministry Sunday, Advent and a Holy Communion service. Some of the altars will be used for group worship. A musician will be on hand to assist if you would like to utilize her.

Post-Class Assignment – Due after class, no later than May 5, 2020

Plan of Implementation

This brief paper (3 pages) includes the following:

- ☑ Share your specific plan for how you will use what you've learned in this class to enrich your congregation's practices and your leadership of Holy Communion and Baptism.
- ☑ Design an outline of an experiential worship service working with a single metaphor, (just as we did in class as a group), with each element of the service enriching and reinforcing the central worship theme. Engage as many of the 5 senses as you can.

This follow up paper will be discussed fully in class.

The May 5th deadline is a hard deadline due to my participation in General Conference and deadline for submission of grades by May 11th.

Saint Paul Course of Study School Expectations and Preparation

The mission of the Course of Study School is to educate and share in the formation of Local Pastors as effective and faithful spiritual leaders of the ministry of the Church, the body of Jesus Christ in the world.

Our agreement with the Division of Ordained Ministry, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in Nashville is that we will provide a year-round experiential and classroom learning process. This process assumes cooperation between the instructors, the students and clergy mentors in the annual conferences.

The Division of Ordained Ministry recommends a guideline of 15-20 pages of written work for each course. That translates into 30 to 40 pages of written work for each module. If a student takes four classes (two modules), that individual will write about 80 pages during the year. Those papers are based on the reading of approximately 4-5 textbooks per class.

In order to keep our promise of **year-round learning**, and to keep the assignments from accumulating and overwhelming a student, the book list is available for students so that they can **begin reading** as early as possible. We encourage students to put dates on their calendars and plan for reading days, as well as time for writing. You know the demands of certain religious seasons such as Advent, Lent, and Easter. Work around them.

The writing manual approved by the Saint Paul Course of Study School faculty is: **Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 7th edition**. It is recommended that each student have a good collegiate-size American English dictionary of the student's choice in paperback or hardcover and copyrighted since 1998.

Related to Structure

- Use Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 7th edition. You may find further help at www.eturabian.com.
- Unless otherwise indicated, all papers must be typed, 1" margins on all sides, Arial 11 or Times New Roman 12, double-spaced, with indented paragraphs (no additional line spacing between paragraphs), and page numbers. Cover pages and bibliography are not included in assigned page count.
- Cite any quoted sources with appropriately formatted footnotes (not endnotes or parenthetical notes); list these and other sources within an appropriately formatted bibliography. If you use a scriptural reference, cite the translation you use in a footnote and the actual Bible in the bibliography. Each paper should have a bibliography.
- Do not begin sentences with "and" or "but." Do not use contractions. Do not include parenthetical commentary in your papers.
- Use inclusive language when referring to God and/or humankind.
- Use appropriate formatting for page numbering, book titles, etc.
- Double-check spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence fragments, tense agreement, etc.

Related to Content

- Read the assigned books thoroughly.
- Resist the temptation to write a book report! Instead, focus your writing on what the author(s) have to say about the assigned topic(s), integrating your own thoughts about the topic(s).

Related to Critical Thinking

- Read the assigned books thoroughly, making notes of what resonates within you and what brings up resistance in you.
- Are there other books or resources that would be appropriate? Bring them into the conversation.
- Practice being in dialogue with all the authors and their material. Who would say what? How would you and the other writers respond? This practice dialogue will not be included in your papers, but it will help you to move into critical reflection.
- If you strongly agree or disagree with an author's point of view, offer your own affirmation or disagreement, supporting your view with additional resources.
- Watch for unsupported "leaps" made by a writer. What, in your opinion, is missing? Use additional resources to fill in the gaps.

Related to Timeliness

- Submit all your assignments on time.

In the event of an emergency situation, a student may request an **extension** from the Director (not assigned faculty) to the due date for advance assignments. This request may be made via email, and if granted, may extend to a *three-week maximum*. A student may only receive *two extensions during their tenure* as a Saint Paul Course of Study student – so use them wisely. If assignments are not completed, the policies of the COS are such that the student may be asked postpone participation in a particular session of COS until that individual can complete all of the work.

Learning can be fun! Consider your reading as a dialogue with authors – some will be more interesting than others. All will have something to teach us. Share the learning process with friends or colleagues or interested members of your congregations.

Book List

Each course has **Assigned Texts**. Students are required to read them, use them in their assignments and are accountable in the classroom for any discussion or presentation of materials.

Recommended (Supplementary) Texts (when applicable) are also required; assignments assure the use of the recommended books; they are not classroom texts. Assigned texts and recommended books help the student build their own library.

Reference Texts (when applicable) are valuable, but optional texts if a student wants to pursue an area of ministry.

Students may acquire the books in a variety of ways: Order from Cokesbury.com; order from another vendor; purchase a used book; or borrow from a colleague.

Instructions for sending assignments to COS office at Saint Paul School of Theology

Course of Study Students are to upload their papers through Moodle. You will need to set up a Moodle account in order to submit your assignments. If you need assistance in setting up your Moodle account, please contact cos@spst.edu for informational handouts. Additional questions on Moodle can be directed to our IT help desk at helpdesk@spst.edu (hours: M – F 8:00am – 5:00pm).